

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Norifumi SHUKUNAMI, et al.

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: April 15, 2004

Examiner:

For: OPTICAL AMPLIFIER AND CONTROL METHOD FOR OPTICAL AMPLIFIER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
 - 1a. Form PTO-1449.
 - 1b. Copies of IDS citations.
 - 1c. An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
 - 1d. English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
 - 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
2. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

 - 2a. satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
 - 2b. set forth in the application.

2c. satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.

2d. enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.

3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
1448.1057

APPLICATION NO.

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR

Norifumi SHUKUNAMI, et al.

FILING DATE

April 15, 2004

GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,907,429	05/1999	Sugata			
	AB	6,335,821	01/2002	Suzuki et al.			
	AC	6,639,716	10/2003	Tomofuji			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AG	10-262032	09/1998	Japan			X
	AH	11-112434	04/1999	Japan			abs
	AI	2000-232433	08/2000	Japan			X
	AJ	2000-299518	10/2000	Japan			X
	AK						
	AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

			TRANSLATION YES NO
	AM		
	AN		
	AO		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ATTACHMENT 1(e)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1448.1057	
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Norifumi SHUKUNAMI, et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	April 15, 2004	

Japanese application AG corresponds to U.S. application AA.

Japanese application AI corresponds to U.S. application AC.

Japanese application AJ corresponds to U.S. application AB.